

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN
GENERAL ENGLISH

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لمستوى الرابع

Read the following texts carefully, and then in your ANSWER BOOKLET answer all the questions that follow. Your answer should be based on the text.

The time we spend at school

A few years ago, as many as 1,000 schools across the USA started making school years longer by adding up to ten extra days-to the school year or by making each school day longer by half an hour.

This was because It was found that secondary school students In the USA and the UK were spending the least time at school, with an average school year of 187 days. The typical Jordanian school year is longer than this. However, none. of these are nearly as long as the school year in countries like Japan and South Korea. South Koreans attend school for 2.20 days per year, and in Japan, the school year numbers 243 days. .

According to a study by the organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), students in Japan, Indonesia and South Korea spend the most time studying in the world. **They** want to learn as much as they can to ensure excellent exam grades. They go to school for about nine hours, although this includes optional after-school tuition and activities. They also spend about three hours on homework every day ,which is three time as much as many other countries. Their high academic achievements do suggest that the longer you study, the better you do in final exams.

In Finland, however, students are usually given less than half an hour of homework per night, and **they** attend school for fewer and shorter days than 85% of other developed nations. Despite this, they achieve top marks In subjects like Maths and Science. In addition, most students also speak at least two, and often three, languages fluently. The contradictory views of the study suggest that the number and length of school days is not the only factor in determining whether students will succeed at school or not.

نموذج 1

1. The article specifies some countries in which students spend the most time studying. Write down two of these countries.
 - **Japan**
 - **Indonesia**
2. There are two procedures implemented by some American schools to make school years longer. Write them down.
 - **By adding up to ten extra days-to the school year**
 - **By making each school day longer by half an hour.**

3. Quote the sentence which shows the subjects in which Finland's students achieve the highest marks.
- **Despite this, they achieve top marks In subjects like Maths and Science**
4. Find a word in the text which means "speaking language very well , like a native speaker." - (fluently)
5. What does the underlined word "they" refer to?
- **students in Japan, Indonesia and South Korea**

نموذج 2

1. The article states two interesting facts about Finland's fewer and shorter school days. Write them down.
- **Students achieve top marks in subjects like Maths and Science.**
- **Most students also speak at least two, and often three, languages fluently**
2. Two countries in which secondary school students were spending the least time studying. Write down these two countries.
- **Uk -USA**
3. Quote the sentence which explains that it is not compulsory to do after-school activities in Japan and South Korea.
- **They go to school for about nine hours, although this includes optional after-school tuition and activities.**
4. Find a word in the text which means " teaching, especially in small groups."
- **tuition**
5. What does the underlined word "they" refer to? –**Students in Finland**
6. Optional after-school tuition and activities have their own positive impacts on students .Suggest three positive impacts on students to show how far do you agree with this statement.
I am strongly agree that optional after-school tuition and activities have their own positive impacts on students as they help students :
–increase self-confidence – make new friends –build valuable learning skills.
- **Support self –confidence -Support cooperation among students- increase student's knowledge in many subjects.**
7. Some researchers argue that the number and length of school days is not the only factor in determining whether students will succeed or not. Think of this statements and , in two sentences ,write down your point of view.
I agree that the number and length of school days is not the only factor in determining whether students will succeed or not. There are other factors that determine success such as methods of teaching as well as the school's environment.